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Letter dated 14 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on Somalia, issued on 14 July 2006 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kirsti **Lintonen**
Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 14 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Statement on Somalia issued on 14 July 2006 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

The European Union is concerned at continuing tension in Somalia and condemns recent fighting in Mogadishu. It urges all parties, within and outside Somalia, to refrain from action that might provoke further violence or confrontation and to comply with the United Nations arms embargo on Somalia. The European Union fully supports the efforts of the League of Arab States to facilitate dialogue between the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia and the Union of Islamic Courts. Following the progress made at the first round of talks on 22 June, the European Union urges all parties to participate fully and constructively in the next round of talks in Khartoum on 15 July.

The acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania, the candidate countries Croatia,* the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* and Turkey, the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia, and the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, align themselves with this statement.

* Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the stabilization and association process.